

# TEN YEARS OF IMPACT



## 2015 LONG-TERM EVALUATION OF LEARNSERVE INTERNATIONAL

### KEY FINDINGS

#### SOCIAL INNOVATION IN ACTION

LearnServe believes young people can be powerful agents of change. We equip students from diverse backgrounds with the entrepreneurial vision, tenacity, confidence and leadership skills needed to tackle social challenges at home and abroad. Each year LearnServe brings together students from public, charter, and independent schools in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, strengthening their academic and professional success through three complementary programs.

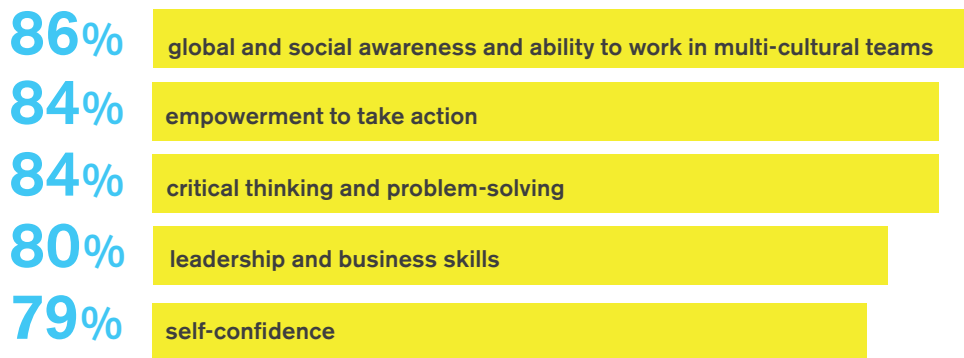
**LearnServe Fellows:** guides students as they design and launch social ventures.

**LearnServe Abroad:** introduces social innovation through a global lens as they volunteer overseas

**Seeding Social Innovation:** offers curriculum materials to bring social entrepreneurship into the classroom (*new in 2015*)

#### LEARNING OUTCOMES

LearnServe programs successfully strengthen students' global awareness, critical thinking, and self-empowerment. Alumni state their LearnServe experience has increased and shaped their:



#### BENEFIT TO STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCOME BACKGROUNDS

For alumni from low-income backgrounds, LearnServe programs strengthen their focus on academics and desire to attend college. This segment of alumni shared that the LearnServe experience increased their:



**LONG-TERM IMPACT ASSESSMENT:** This study was conducted by ICF International between November 2014 and January 2015. The study was designed to understand the impact of the LearnServe experience on participants' educational and professional choices; ongoing civic engagement; and leadership development. ICF International surveyed all LearnServe alumni from 2004-2014, and conducted focus groups with select alumni, parents, and teachers.

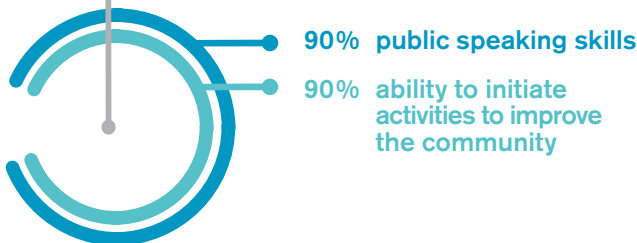
“THROUGH LEARNSERVE, I BECAME AN ACTIVE AGENT OF CHANGE. I LEARNED HOW TO RELATE TO PEOPLE OF OTHER BACKGROUNDS WITH DIFFERENT OPINIONS AND FIND COMMON GROUND.... I NOW HAVE CLEAR GOALS TO IMPROVE THE WORLD AND THE SKILLS TO DO IT.”

—2012 LEARNSERVE GRADUATE

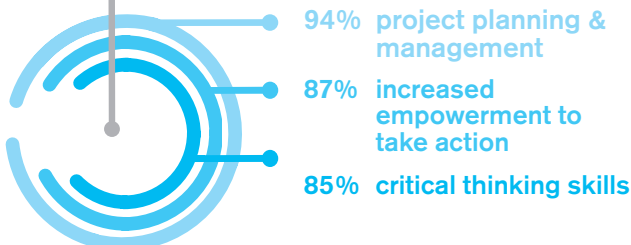
## LEARNING OUTCOME BY PROGRAM

Students who participate in both the LearnServe Fellows and Abroad programs demonstrate most significant learning – particularly in critical thinking and project planning skills.

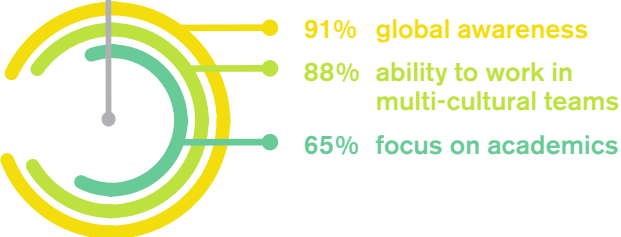
### FELLOWS



### FELLOWS & ABROAD



### ABROAD



## COLLEGE ACCESS

LearnServe participants draw on their LearnServe experience when applying for college and college scholarships.



95%

MENTION LEARNSERVE IN THEIR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS



80%

MENTION LEARNSERVE IN THEIR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS



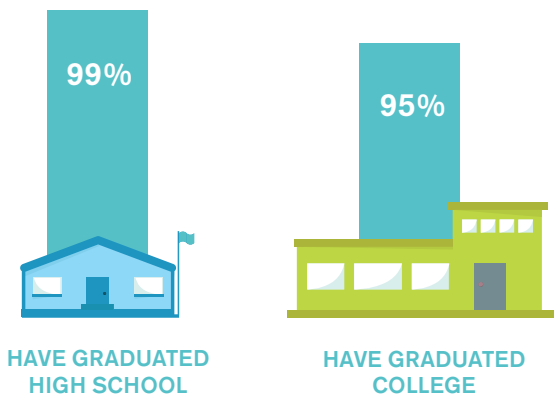
59%

FELT IT HELPED THEM WIN THE SCHOLARSHIP\*

\*of those who mentioned LearnServe in their scholarship applications

## COLLEGE COMPLETION

College completion rates among LearnServe alumni survey respondents is noticeably higher than the US national average – independent of socio-economic group. Of study participants:



## CONTINUED CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

LearnServe programs inspire alumni to stay engaged in improving their schools and communities beyond their LearnServe experience, often in a leadership role.



62% continue to volunteer after LearnServe

MORE THAN 50% of these in a leadership role.



42% started or initiated activities to improve their schools (outside of LearnServe).



82% expressed interest in international or study abroad opportunities

27% had studied or volunteered abroad since their LearnServe experience.